

**EPA Superfund  
Record of Decision:**

**MIAMI DRUM SERVICES  
EPA ID: FLD076027820  
OU 01  
MIAMI, FL  
09/13/1982**

MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA.

**#DR**

**ANALYSES REVIEWED:**

I HAVE REVIEWED THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS DESCRIBING THE ANALYSIS OF COST EFFECTIVENESS OF REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES FOR THE MIAMI DRUM SITE:

- REPORT TITLED "THE FEASIBILITY OF ABATING THE SOURCE OF GROUND WATER POLLUTION AT MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA," DECEMBER 8, 1981.
- REPORT TITLED "EVALUATION OF THE CLEANUP ACTIVITIES ALREADY UNDERTAKEN AT THE MIAMI DRUM SERVICES HAZARDOUS SITE, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA," SEPTEMBER 1, 1982.
- STAFF SUMMARIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS.
- RECOMMENDATION BY FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION.

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**DECLARATIONS**

CONSISTENT WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE, COMPENSATION AND LIABILITY ACT OF 1980, AND THE NATIONAL CONTINGENCY PLAN, I HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE EXCAVATION OF CONTAMINATED SOILS AND DEBRIS AND THEIR TRANSPORTATION TO AN EPA APPROVED LANDFILL FOR SECURE BURIAL PROVIDES AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF CLEAN UP. THE ACTION TAKEN IS A COST-EFFECTIVE REMEDY, AND IT EFFECTIVELY AND RELIABLY MITIGATES AND MINIMIZES DAMAGE TO, AND PROVIDES ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND THE ENVIRONMENT. I HAVE ALSO DETERMINED THAT THE ACTION TAKEN IS APPROPRIATE WHEN BALANCED AGAINST THE NEED TO USE TRUST FUND MONEY AT OTHER SITES. IN ADDITION, THE CHOSEN REMEDY COMPLIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 101(24) OF CERCLA BECAUSE OFF-SITE DISPOSAL IS MORE COST-EFFECTIVE THAN POTENTIAL ON-SITE REMEDIES.

RITA M. LAVELLE  
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR  
OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE & EMERGENCY RESPONSE.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
RECORD OF DECISION  
MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

DURING DECEMBER 1981 THROUGH JANUARY 1982, DADE COUNTY PROCEEDED WITH THE EXCAVATION AND DISPOSAL OF HIGHLY CONTAMINATED SOILS AT THE MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, INC. SITE. THE STATE SUBMITTED A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT ON DECEMBER 11, 1981 AND A REQUEST FOR A DEVIATION FROM THE GRANT REGULATIONS TO ALLOW PRE-AWARD COSTS TO BE PAID UPON FINAL AWARD. A SUPERFUND ALLOCATION FOR THE PRE-AWARD COSTS AND FOR A FEASIBILITY STUDY WAS APPROVED IN AN ACTION MEMORANDUM ON JUNE 1, 1982. THE AWARD IS BASED UPON THE SATISFACTORY COMPLETION AND ACCEPTANCE BY THE STATE OF SEVERAL CONDITIONS DESCRIBED IN A MEMORANDUM FROM RITA M. LAVELLE, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO CHARLES R. JETER, REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR, REGION IV, OF JUNE 2, 1982. THE RECORD OF DECISION PROVIDES EPA'S DETERMINATION THAT THE REMEDIAL ACTION UNDERTAKEN BY DADE COUNTY WAS CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CERCLA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS MEETING THE FIRST CONDITION OF THE JUNE 2ND MEMORANDUM.

THE RECORD OF DECISION CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- BRIEFING SHEET SUMMARIZING THE TECHNICAL FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE DADE COUNTY REMEDIAL ACTION
- ACTION MEMORANDUM DATED JUNE 1, 1982, ALLOCATING SUPERFUND MONIES TO THE MIAMI DRUM SITE
- MEMORANDUM DATED JUNE 2, 1982 CONCERNING THE APPROVAL OF CERCLA EXPENDITURES AT THE MIAMI DRUM SERVICES SITE AND OUTLINING THE CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE MET
- MEMORANDUM DATED JULY 8, 1982, FROM WILLIAM N. HEDEMAN REQUESTING A DEVIATION FROM 40 CFR PART 30.345 (4) TO ALLOW PRE-AWARD COSTS
- MEMORANDUM FROM CHARLES R. JETER DATED AUGUST 26, 1982, PROVIDING REGION IV'S CONCURRENCE WITH THE TECHNICAL EVALUATION REPORT ON THE DADE COUNTY REMEDIAL ACTION
- MEMORANDUM FROM TERRY COLE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION, DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 1982, PROVIDING THE STATE'S ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF THE TECHNICAL EVALUATION REPORT ON THE DADE COUNTY REMEDIAL ACTION
- FINAL REPORT "EVALUATION OF THE CLEAN-UP ACTIVITIES ALREADY UNDERTAKEN AT THE MIAMI DRUM SERVICES HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA," SEPTEMBER 1, 1982
- FIELD INVESTIGATION TEAM REPORT, "THE FEASIBILITY OF ABATING THE SOURCE OF GROUND WATER POLLUTION AT MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA," DECEMBER 8, 1981.

MIAMI DRUM SERVICES  
DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BRIEFING SHEET

PURPOSE

- THE PURPOSE OF THIS BRIEFING IS TO REQUEST APPROVAL FOR THE REMEDIAL ACTION RECOMMENDED BY REGION IV AND THE STATE OF FLORIDA FOR THE MIAMI DRUM SITE. A "RECORD OF DECISION" HAS BEEN PREPARED TO DOCUMENT THIS APPROVAL. THIS PRESENTATION COMPLETES THE FIRST CONDITION CONTAINED IN THE LAVELLE TO JETER MEMORANDUM OF JUNE 2, 1982.

BACKGROUND

- MIAMI DRUM SERVICES (MDS) IS AN APPROXIMATELY 1 ACRE INACTIVE DRUM RECYCLING FACILITY. THE SOILS WERE CONTAMINATED BY PHENOLS, HEAVY METALS, OIL AND GREASE, PESTICIDES AND OTHER MATERIALS FROM THE DRUM CLEANING OPERATION. RESISTIVITY MEASUREMENTS IDENTIFIED A PLUME OF UNDETERMINED COMPOSITION IN THE GROUND WATER UNDERLYING THE AREA.
- IN APRIL 1981, DADE COUNTY FILED A SUIT AGAINST MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, INC., FOR CLEANUP OF THE SITE. THE COURT GRANTED THE COUNTY PRELIMINARY RELIEF AND ORDERED THE COMPANY TO CEASE OPERATIONS. MIAMI DRUM SERVICES SUBSEQUENTLY FILED A MOTION TO DISMISS THE CASE. THE MOTION WAS DENIED, BUT THE COMPANY APPEALED THE DENIAL. THE COUNTY'S SUIT AGAINST MIAMI DRUM SEEKS INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, RECOVERY OF ALL FUNDS SPENT FOR CLEANUP, COMPENSATORY DAMAGES FOR HARM TO NATURAL RESOURCES, AND PUNITIVE DAMAGES.

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- GIVEN THE POTENTIAL FOR PROTRACTED LITIGATION, THERE EXISTED AN URGENT NEED FOR SOURCE CONTROL ACTION AT THE SITE BECAUSE OF:
  - (1) THE SERIOUS DANGER TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE PRESENTED BY THE CONTAMINATED DRUMS STILL ON SITE;
  - (2) THE ABSENCE OF AN EFFECTIVE DRAINAGE CONTROL SYSTEM;
  - (3) THE AMOUNT AND FORM OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE PRESENT AT THE SITE;
  - (4) THE LEACHABLE PROPERTIES OF THESE SUBSTANCES;
  - (5) THE RISK OF CONTAMINATION OF THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES OF DADE COUNTY;
  - (6) THE HYDROGEOLOGY OF THE AREA WHICH HELPS IN ACCELERATING THE MIGRATION OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES INTO THE AQUIFER AND LOCAL SURFACE WATER BODIES;
  - (7) THE PREVAILING WEATHER CONDITIONS (RAINFALL) CONTRIBUTING TO THE LEACHING PROCESS;  
AND
  - (8) THE ABSENCE OF NATURAL OR MAN-MADE BARRIERS AT THE SITE TO CONTAIN THE CONTAMINATION.
- A NUMBER OF REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES WERE CONSIDERED IN THE INITIAL SCREENING. ALTERNATIVES IDENTIFIED FELL INTO FOUR GENERAL CATEGORIES:
  - NO ACTION
  - ONSITE CONTAINMENT

- ONSITE TREATMENT
- OFFSITE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

A FEASIBILITY STUDY PERFORMED BY AN EPA CONTRACTOR RECOMMENDED EXCAVATION AND RELOCATION OF THE CONTAMINATED MATERIALS TO AN EXISTING AND APPROVED DISPOSAL FACILITY. THE NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE WAS DETERMINED NOT TO BE PROTECTIVE OF PUBLIC HEALTH. ONSITE CONTAINMENT WAS EVALUATED, BUT BECAUSE OF THE HIGH GROUND WATER TABLE (ONE TO THREE FEET FROM THE SURFACE), THE DEPTH TO AN AQUICLUDE (100 FEET OR MORE), AND THE SOLUTION CAVITY NATURE OF THE SOIL, A CONTAINMENT WALL WOULD HAVE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AS WELL AS HAVING SERIOUS CONSTRUCTABILITY PROBLEMS. ONSITE TREATMENT WOULD INVOLVE INCINERATION OF THE SOIL AND, BECAUSE THE HEAVY METALS WOULD REMAIN, DISPOSAL OF THE RESIDUE. AFTER THE EXPENSE OF INCINERATION, FULLY 75% OF THE SOIL VOLUME WOULD STILL HAVE TO BE DISPOSED OFF-SITE.

- TWO LEVELS OF CLEANUP WERE INVESTIGATED TO DETERMINE THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE REMEDY:

(C) SOIL EXCAVATION TO EXTENT DICTATED BY ENGINEERING AND SCIENTIFIC JUDGMENT

COST                    \$1,568,660.09

(D) EXCAVATION OF SOILS IN EXCESS OF 10 TIMES THE STATE OF FLORIDA "MINIMUM CRITERIA " FOR GROUND WATER BASED ON EP TOXICITY TESTS.

COST                    \$2,314,000.00+.

ALTERNATIVE C WAS IMPLEMENTED. THE PRIMARY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN C AND D IS THAT D WOULD HAVE REQUIRED THE REMOVAL OF AN ADDITIONAL 3900 CUBIC YARDS OF MERCURY CONTAMINATED SOIL. THE SOIL ON THE SITE IS MORE ALKALINE THAN THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED FOR THE EP TOXICITY TEST AND IT WAS JUDGED THAT THE MERCURY WOULD NOT BE AS PRONE TO LEACH FROM THIS MORE BASIC SOIL.

EACH ALTERNATIVE WAS DETERMINED TO EFFECTIVELY MITIGATE DAMAGE TO, AND PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

- THE RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE INCLUDES EXCAVATION AND TRANSPORTATION OFFSITE OF CONTAMINATED SOILS. THE TOTAL (UNAUDITED) COST FOR THIS IS \$1,568,660.09.
- THE "RECORD OF DECISION" CERTIFIES THAT:
  - THE SELECTED REMEDY IS A COST EFFECTIVE ACTION FOR THE SITE
  - MONIES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE FUND TO FINANCE THE REMEDY
  - OFF-SITE DISPOSAL IS MORE COST EFFECTIVE THAN POTENTIAL ON-SITE REMEDIES.

#### STATUS OF REMAINING CONDITIONS

- PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN COMPLYING WITH THE REMAINING THREE CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN THE JUNE 2, 1982 MEMO:
1. AN AUDIT MUST BE PERFORMED BY THE EPA INSPECTOR GENERAL TO DETERMINE THE EXACT AMOUNT OF ELIGIBLE AND ALLOWABLE PROJECT COSTS INCURRED BY DADE COUNTY FOR THE SURFACE CLEANUP. THE AUDIT HAS BEEN PERFORMED AND A FINAL REPORT IS IN PREPARATION. SPECIAL LANGUAGE IN THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WILL CONDITION THE LEVEL OF FUNDING ON THE FINAL DETERMINATION BY THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.

2. THE PROPER GRANT PROCEDURES FOR THE AWARD OF A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT MUST BE COMPLETED, INCLUDING THE PROCESSING OF A DEVIATION FROM EPA GRANT REGULATIONS TO PERMIT ALLOWABLE COSTS PRIOR TO EXECUTION OF THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT. THE PROPER PROCEDURES, INCLUDING A DEVIATION FROM EPA GRANT REGULATIONS, HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED.
3. USE OF CERCLA FUNDS TO REIMBURSE 90 PERCENT OF DADE COUNTY'S SURFACE CLEANUP EXPENSES IS CONDITIONED ON THE COUNTY'S ASSIGNING TO EPA ITS CLAIM AGAINST MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, INC., UP TO THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT FROM THE FUND. DEPENDING ON THE COUNTY'S DESIRES, THIS CAN BE HANDLED IN ONE OF SEVERAL WAYS. THE COUNTY CAN DISMISS WITHOUT PREJUDICE ITS CLAIM AGAINST MIAMI DRUM SERVICES, INC. AND SEEK A STAY OF THE REMAINING PROCEEDINGS WHILE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PURSUES COST RECOVERY. ALTERNATIVELY, EPA, THE COUNTY AND PERHAPS THE STATE, MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WHEREBY THE COUNTY WILL AGREE TO REPAY THE FUND IF A MONETARY AWARD IS OBTAINED FROM MIAMI DRUM SERVICES IN THE COUNTY'S PROCEEDINGS. THIS CONDITION HAS BEEN ADDRESSED AS A GRANT SPECIAL CONDITION WHICH MUST BE MET BEFORE MONEY CAN FLOW TO THE STATE/COUNTY.

#### SECOND OPERABLE UNIT

- THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WORK PLAN INCLUDES A REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION AND FEASIBILITY STUDY TO ADDRESS THE PLUME IDENTIFIED BY RESISTIVITY MEASUREMENTS. DEPENDING ON THE RESULTS OF THIS WORK, THE STATE MAY WISH TO AMEND THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT TO IMPLEMENT A REMEDY.

#### FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

- THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED TO MOVE THE PROJECT TO THE STAGE WHERE THE COUNTY CAN RECEIVE MONEY FROM THE FUND FOR THE ACTION TAKEN:
  - APPROVE THE REMEDY -- AA, OSWER
  - CONSUMMATE STATE SUPERFUND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT -- HEADQUARTERS/STATE
  - FULFILL SPECIAL CONDITIONS -- REGION/STATE/COUNTY.

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TABLES, MEMORANDA, ATTACHMENTS

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
SEPTEMBER 13, 1982

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: RECORD OF DECISION FOR THE MIAMI DRUM SERVICES SITE, DADE  
COUNTY, FLORIDA

FROM: WILLIAM N. HEDEMAN, JR., DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY AND REMEDIAL RESPONSE (WH-548)

TO: RITA M. LAVELLE, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR  
OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (WH-562-A)

I AM FORWARDING FOR YOUR APPROVAL A RECORD OF DECISION FOR THE MIAMI DRUM SERVICES SITE. THE RECORD OF DECISION IS BASED UPON OUR REVIEW OF THE REMEDIAL ACTION UNDERTAKEN BY DADE COUNTY DURING DECEMBER 1981 THROUGH JANUARY 1982. THE FINDINGS CONCLUDE THAT THE REMEDIAL ACTION PROVIDES AN ADEQUATE LEVEL OF CLEAN-UP TO EFFECTIVELY MITIGATE AND MINIMIZE DAMAGE TO, AND PROVIDES ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND THE ENVIRONMENT. FURTHER, THE ACTIONS TAKEN ARE CONSISTENT WITH CERCLA PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS. IF YOU FEEL THE NEED FOR A BRIEFING ON THE CONTENTS OF THE RECORD OF DECISION, I CAN DO SO AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.